

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 05525 100807Z
ACTION EUR-12

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PASS AGRICULTURE

EO 11652N/A
TAGS: EAGR PL
SUBJ: SITUATION IN POLISH AGRICULTURE

1. THE EFFECTS OF RECENT HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODING ON THE CROP SITUATION IS THE OBJECT OF HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION AND CONCERN IN POLAND. . IN A SPEECH AT WROCLAW ON AUGUST 8, AS REPORTED IN TRYBUNA LUDU THE FOLLOWING DAY, PREMIER PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ SAID THAT, WHILE PROSPECTS FOR INCREASED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION SEEMED GOOD, THE RAINS AND FLOODING IN JULY AND AUGUST HAD CAUSED MUCH DAMAGE TO CROPS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

2. JAROSZEWICZ PREDICTED THAT GRAIN YIELDS WOULD BE DOWN FROM LAST YEAR IN OVER HALF OF ALL PROVINCES, AND HE SAID THAT RAPESEED PRODUCTION WAS LIKELY TO BE POOR. HE NOTED THAT POTATO PRODUCTION WOULD ALSO BE DOWN FROM 1976. THIS, ACCORDING TO THE PREMIER WOULD HAMPER THE GOVERNMENT'S FOOD PROGRAM IN 1978 AND WOULD ALSO HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON PLANS FOR 1979. HE STRESSED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO MOBILIZE ALL LIVESTOCK-FEED SUPPLIES IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE RECOVERY OF LIVESTOCK NUMBERS. IN THAT CONNECTION, JAROSZEWIDZ SAID THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN IMPORTS IN 1977-78 AT THE SAME LEVEL AS IN 1976/77,
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WHEN HE SAID 7-MILLION METRIC TONS OF GRAINS AND FEEDS WERE IMPORTED.

3. COMMENT: WE ASSUME THE 7 MT FUGURE USED BY JAROSZEWICZ IS MADE UP OF 6 MMT GRAINS AND 1 MMT GRAIN EQUIVALENT OF OILSEEDS, MEALS, AND PRODUCTS. THE SITUATION IS STILL TOO UNCLEAR TO PERMIT US TO VENTURE ANY GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGE, BUT WE WILL CON-

TINUE TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY. END COMMENT.
DAVIES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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